However in respect of other agricultural items, Government is constantly reviewing the position.

Impact of world market recession on Indian Trade

†966. SHRI D. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the impact of recession in international market is affecting our exports; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of this year's trade deficit as compared to last financial year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Export performance *inter-alia* is influenced by international market conditions, export competitiveness of the domestic industry, and that of the competitors in other countires etc. India's lower export growth rate in the first two months of this year is on account of slowdown of the US and other developed country economics. Areas where sluggish export growth has been noticed during 2000-01 are plantation, gems & jewellery, sports goods, handicrafts and carpets, etc.

As per provisional data available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, trade deficit, in US dollar, are as under:—

(US $ Million)

Year	Balance of Trade
1999-2000	(—) 12905
2000-01*	(—) 5739
2000-01 (April-May)*	(—) 1873.84
2001-02 (April-May)*	(—) 1194.51

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

*Provisional Figures